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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

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OCT 25 2004

Appl. No. : 10/653,822  
Applicant : Klaus Galehr et al  
Filed : Sept. 3, 2003  
Group Art Unit : 3751  
Examiner : Nguyen, Tuan N.  
My Docket No. : IVd07US  
Customer No. : 29313

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

LETTER

Sir:

In the notice of allowance dated October 22, 2004 the examiner has indicated that claims 1-17 are allowable. However, claims 1-18 are pending in this application. As claim 18 depends from an allow claim it is assumed that this claim is also allowable. However, the examiner is respectfully requested to confirm this.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]  
John C. Thompson  
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